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H. R. 10368

Comments on Pending Legislation

Office of General Counsel

- 1. In substance this bill is intended to accomplish the same purpose as H. R. 9172 and H. R. 9173 (See our comments on the former).
- 2. There are, however, several changes in the text, the bulk of which seems to have been made in the interest of clarity, but of which a few may be significant. In lines 6 and 7, page 2 of H. R. 9173 it is provided that the detailed information required by this bill must be submitted in connection with certain reports "requested by the Congress or any committee thereof." H. R. 10368 omits this provision, leaving the initiative primarily in the hands of the Executive. Commencing at line 18 on page 2 of H. R. 9173 is a very detailed provision concerning the type of report required. H. R. 10368 considerably abbreviates this requirement. Here we to fall under the Act, H. R. 10368 would require the disclosure of much less in the way of information possibly damaging to our security.
- 3. It should be noted, however, that, as in the earlier proposed bills, H. R. 10368 specifically excludes from its application the Central Intelligence Agency. No action by us is required at this time.